Private sector assistance for development of barren land

†1489. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the districtwise total areas of barren land converted into cultivable land by Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarāt Governments;

(b) the details of projects approved by Government which have been implemented, district-wise;

(c) whether Government have sought assistance from private sector undertakings for development of barren land;

(d) whether Government have accorded approval to a proposal for receiving assistance from private sector industrial organisation for development of barren land of Kutch district of Gujarat; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) As per the definition of Nine Fold Land Use Classification of the Ministry of Agriculture, the barren land covers land like mountain, deserts etc; land which cannot be brought under cultivation unless at a high cost. Under Central Sector Schemes, so far, no specific project have been sanctioned to convert barren land into cultivable land in the States of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. The State Governments of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and gujarat have reported nil information for converting barren land into cultivable land.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) In view of (c) & (d) above, does not arise.

Objective of Wasteland Development Scheme

1490. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the basic objective and funding pattern of Wasteland Development Scheme;

(b) its present implementation status throughout the country, indicating State-wise amount utilised during the last five years; and

(c) the list of projects received from Government of Assam and their implementation status, indicating year-wise sanctioned and utilised amounts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) The Department is implementing an Integrated Wastelands Development Projects (IWDP) scheme. The basic objective of this scheme is to develop non-forest wastelands on Watershed basis. The projects under the scheme are being funded by the Department of Land Resources to the extent of 100% Grant-in-Aid basis @ Rs. 4000 per ha. The projects for treatment of non-forest wastelands are sanctioned and funds released in favour of District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs)/Zilla Parishads (ZPs). Projects are sanctioned for a period of four to five years.

(b) State-wise details of funds released under Integrated Wastelands Development Projects Scheme during the last five years are given in the Statement I. (*See* below).

(c) The Department has sanctioned one IWDP project for Karbi Anglong district in the State of Assam in the year 1997-98 for a period of four years from 1997-98 to 2000-01 at a total cost of Rs. 245.20 lakhs for development of 6130 ha. of wastelands, out of which an amount of Rs.61.30 lakhs has been released by the Department upto 31.3.1999 for implementation of this project.

The Government of Assam has submitted a final list of 15 prioritized IWDP Projects. Out of These, four project proposals for the districts of (i) Dhalgaon (Lakimpur), (ii) Mayong (Morigaon), (iii) Nona (Nalbari) and (iv) Motidalgang—Karimgang have not yet been received in the Department. However, a list of 11 prioritized IWDP projects of Assam State is given in the Statement—II. (*See* below) These eleven projects will be considered for sanction subject to conformity to the Guidelines for Watershed Development as well as availability of funds.

Statement-I

Sl. No.	Name of State	Funds released during last 5 years (1994-95 to 1998-99) (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4441.95
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9.00
3.	Assam	61.30
4.	Bihar	801.55
5.	Gujarat	2699.70
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1227.55
7.	Haryana	611.29
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	305.36
9.	Karnataka	1411.24
10.	Kerala	662.31
11.	Maharashtra	381.23
12.	Meghalaya	57.42
13.	Manipur	498.02
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1142.73
15.	Mizoram	179.75
16.	Nagaland	1494.35
17.	Orissa	1507.37
18.	Punjab	419.37
19.	Rajasthan	2131.87
20.	Sikkim	981.39
21.	Tamil Nadu	1065.89
22.	Tripura	134.58

1	2	3	4
23.	Uttar Pradesh		4140.32
24.	West Bengal		527.00
25.	CAPART		250.00
	TOTAL:		27142.54

Statement-II

List of the IWDP project proposals prioritized for sanction during the year 1999-2000 of Assam State

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Area (In Ha.)	Project cost (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Kalong (Nagaon)	12.500	500.00
2.	Haila Kandi (Hailkakand)	11.476	459.00
3.	Dayang (Golaghat)	12,000	480.00
4.	Karbi Anglong	24,875	2778.00
5.	Gaindi (Dhemaji)	10,000	400.00
6.	Motirchar (Dhubri)	2,550	102.00
7.	Morachanali (Sonitpur)	6,386	255.40
8.	Kozongatal (Tinsukia)	—	220.00
9.	Aietaura (Kokrajhar)	12,588	503.52
10.	Kujia (Vonjaigaon)	6,234	250.00
11.	Goalpara (Golpara)	5,600	224.00